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COMMENT OF THE DAY

DR ADENAUER

THE West German Chancellor's reference to the possibility of asking Marshal Bulganin what he meant by "vague" proposals in his recent letter to Dr Adenauer appears to be a sign that the latter is moving towards a more positive attitude on East-West talks.

Dr Adenauer has always in the past been opposed to a four-power meeting, which he considered, without prospect of success unless the Russians gave some positive proof of a change of heart. He said last summer that a four-power conference might be envisaged if agreement could be reached on first steps towards disarmament.

The Chancellor's reference to an approach to the Russians through diplomatic channels is a cautious one, but the Soviet Premier's latest letter has apparently produced some satisfaction in Bonn because of its moderate tone, which contrasts sharply with some of the recent communications to the West German Government.

Not Clear

IT is not immediately clear what vague proposals Dr Adenauer was referring to in his speech at the Nato conference, but Marshal Bulganin's letter contained a proposal for an "atom-free zone" which left completely untouched the question of inspection or control of such a zone.

However, in contrast to his cautious reference to diplomatic contacts on the Bulganin letter, Dr Adenauer was as positive as ever in proclaiming the continued existence of the threat from the East, and the Communist aim of world revolution.

The Chancellor made no reference to any anticipation to the West German decision on accepting rockets or atomic weapons should Nato decide that common strategy made them necessary.

But the modification of the American attitude has brought the United States very close to the German point of view that there is no point in trying to rush decisions on rocket bases since the rockets will not be ready for some time. Perhaps Dr Adenauer is hoping that the best use can be made of that time to bring about East-West agreement.

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AN 'INDIRECT' REPLY TO MR B

Nato's Answer To Be In Final Communique

By JOSEPH W. GRIGG

Paris, Dec. 17.

The Nato summit conference discussed steps to press Russia for a controlled nuclear disarmament agreement and a free, re-united Germany today.

FIVE DEAD IN AIR CRASH

Wiesbaden, Dec. 17. Five men were killed and one seriously injured when a twin-engine United States Air Force C-47 crashed near here tonight.

The aircraft was preparing to land at Wiesbaden when it struck a hillside, crashed in a wood and burst into flames. — Reuters.

HIS BASIN EXPLODED

Cosenza, Dec. 18. It is dangerous to smoke in the bath at Villapiana seaside resort near here—the water is inflammable. Reason is a jet of methane gas spurting into the town's artesian well. A local hotel proprietor's son was startled when tap water, dripping on to a lighted candle, near a basin, exploded like petrol. — China Mail Special.

Would You Believe It

London, Dec. 17. A woman interviewed by a roving BBC television crew on a "Seeing Eye" programme last night was asked who was representing Great Britain at the Nato conference in Paris. "President Eisenhower, I suppose," she said. — United Press.

WE DON'T WANT 'BOSSY JANES' IN LORDS

London, Dec. 17. Viscount Massereene and Ferrard, 43, does not want any "bossy Janes" in the House of Lords. He said so today in a speech urging fellow peers to throw out a Government bill to allow women to sit in Britain's second chamber as peeresses for life.

Lord Massereene (John Clotworthy Talbot Foster Whyte-Melville Skelington), a Conservative peer, said: "You cannot argue with a woman. I cannot, anyway."

HEAVEN FORBID

"This house may have become the rest home for salaried trade union bosses, but heaven forbid that it ever becomes the stamping-ground for bossy Janes."

A Scottish Conservative peer, Lord Saltoun, another Conservative peer, said there was no logic about the Government's proposal.

"Because you have boys and girls together at a hunt ball there is no need to have them together, say, in a maternity home."

HEAVEN'S SAKE

Another opponent was the 83-year-old Earl of Glasgow, a Conservative, who said recently that he would not like to meet ladies in the library of the house.

"This is about the only place left in the kingdom where men can meet without women. For heaven's sake let us keep it like that," he exclaimed amid laughter.

Lord Salisbury, Conservative, said some of the greatest sovereigns of modern times and some of the greatest British scientists and writers had been women.

Lord Altrick's motion was defeated by 134 votes to 30. — China Mail Special.

RUSSELL WINS AWARD

London, Dec. 18. Bertrand Russell, the British philosopher, scientist and writer, has been awarded the 1957 Kalinga prize for the popularisation of science. It was announced here today. The prize, worth about £1,000—is offered annually by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation. — Reuters.

Third Airport Needed

London, Dec. 17. London may need a third airport after 1970, according to Lord Douglas of Kildare, chairman of British European Airways.

Writing today in the airlines staff magazine, he said that by 1970 the combined capacity of London airport and Gatwick airport—now being built near London—should still be "just sufficient." — China Mail Special.

Seditious Photos

Nicosia, Dec. 18. The Cyprus Supreme Court yesterday quashed a one-year prison sentence imposed on Panayiotis Kyriakou, 45, for possessing seditious photographs of EOKA "heroes". — China Mail Special.

STRIKE ENDED BY DECLARING CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS!

Manila, Dec. 18. The University of the Philippines authorities today put an abrupt end to a two-day strike by some 12,000 students protesting against delay in the appointment of a President for the state institution.

The UP Executive Committee, in what educators described as a master stroke, simply declared the Christmas holidays.

The action, which caught the strikers by surprise, prevented the completion of plans to prolong the strike and to gain support by more students in the hard University. The UP Executive Committee, meeting in an emergency session, decided to "advance the holidays by four days to prevent the strike from getting out of hand."

MASS EXODUS FROM JAVA IN FULL SWING

Djakarta, Dec. 17. Thousands of Dutch nationals were today queuing in front of immigration offices in Surabaya, Semarang and Djakarta, applying for permits to leave Indonesia.

The mass evacuation went into full swing when 850 Dutch embarked at Tanjung Perak, the harbour of Surabaya, aboard the Waterman of the Rotterdam Lloyd Line, which is sailing for Singapore tomorrow. Packing companies in Djakarta are booked for months ahead. In hundreds of Dutch houses in the capital, all the valued belongings, sometimes including the complete furniture, have been packed already and sent to dockside godowns to await shipment.

CAPTAIN COOK

Dutch diplomatic sources told AFP correspondent that the general tendency among Dutch firms was to leave behind essential staff members and to evacuate women and children and non-essential staff.

SOEKARNO LEAVES ON JANUARY 5

Djakarta, Dec. 17. President Ahmed Soekarno of Indonesia is to leave for Java on January 5 for a vacation abroad, recommended by his private doctors, parliamentary official, Zainal Abidin Ahmed, announced today. Ahmed, who is No. 3 speaker of the House of Representatives, did not specify the country in which the President would rest but it was understood that he would go to India. — France-Press.

The British vessel, Captain Cook, which is calling at Tanjung Priok, next Friday will be filled to its capacity of 1,000 berths. A number of Dutch from outlying islands, have been arriving in the capital in the last few days. About 80 Dutch nationals are leaving daily by plane for Singapore. A regular airlift is now being operated by the BOAC, Qantas Airline, and Garuda Indonesia Airways. Burmese Airways and Malayan Airways are also seeking permission to land at Djakarta. — France-Press.

HOME FOR 50 YEARS

Naples, Dec. 17. Sicilian Giuseppe La Meca saw his homeland again today from the deck of a ship—but there was none of the joy of the returning exile showing in his face. For he had come home to spend the next 50 years and four months in gaol.

La Meca, leader of a bandit gang which terrorised a region of the Madonie Mountains in northern Sicily after the war, entered the United States illegally in 1955. The sentences were passed on him by a Palermo court in 1954 while he was at large. He also faces other charges. — China Mail Special.

TORIES FACE TOUGH FIGHT

Southport, Dec. 17. The Conservative Government faces the prospect of a possible defeat in a by-election here caused by the death last night of Lieutenant-Colonel Wentworth Schofield, who had a majority of only 1,590 votes in the 1955 general election.

The forthcoming contest—date of which has still to be fixed—will be one of the most narrowly-fought of the 32 parliamentary contests held since the Conservative Government regained power in May 1955.

BY-ELECTION

In by-elections throughout this year, the Government party's popularity has slumped sharply. Its share of total votes polled has fallen by percentages ranging from three to 20 per cent.

In 1955, Lieutenant-Colonel Schofield polled 20,518 votes against Mr J. McCann, Labour, 24,923 votes, in a straight fight.

The Labour Party—claiming that the Government's recent unpopularity is due to its failure to stop the cost of living from soaring—is confident it can defeat Conservatives in the forthcoming contest. — Reuters.

Taiwan Govt Files Suit In America

Las Vegas, Dec. 17. The Taiwan Government filed a suit in District Court here yesterday to recover US\$200,000 it alleged was stolen by a former Chinese Air Force colonel now residing in Boulder City, Nevada. The Government named as defendants in the suit Vashuen Hsiang, a former purchasing agent for the Chinese Air Force, and his wife, Frances. The suit charged that Hsiang and his wife had possession of two US\$100,000 Treasury notes, which were to have been used on behalf of his Government, and that they spent one purchasing an expensive home.

AFFIDAVITS

The Chinese Government further alleged that the couple conspired to secure the proceeds of the bill. The Government said that affidavits of attachment on the home, where the Hsiangs now reside, have been issued. The suit, filed by Attorney G. William Coulthard, was the culmination of a two-year search for the money by Chicago attorneys employed by the Taiwan Government. — United Press.

Denied Permit

Okhawa, Dec. 17. Naha's former Communist Mayor has been denied travel documents to attend the Cairo Afro-Asian conference because he refused to fill out necessary forms, the Ryukyu government said today. — United Press.

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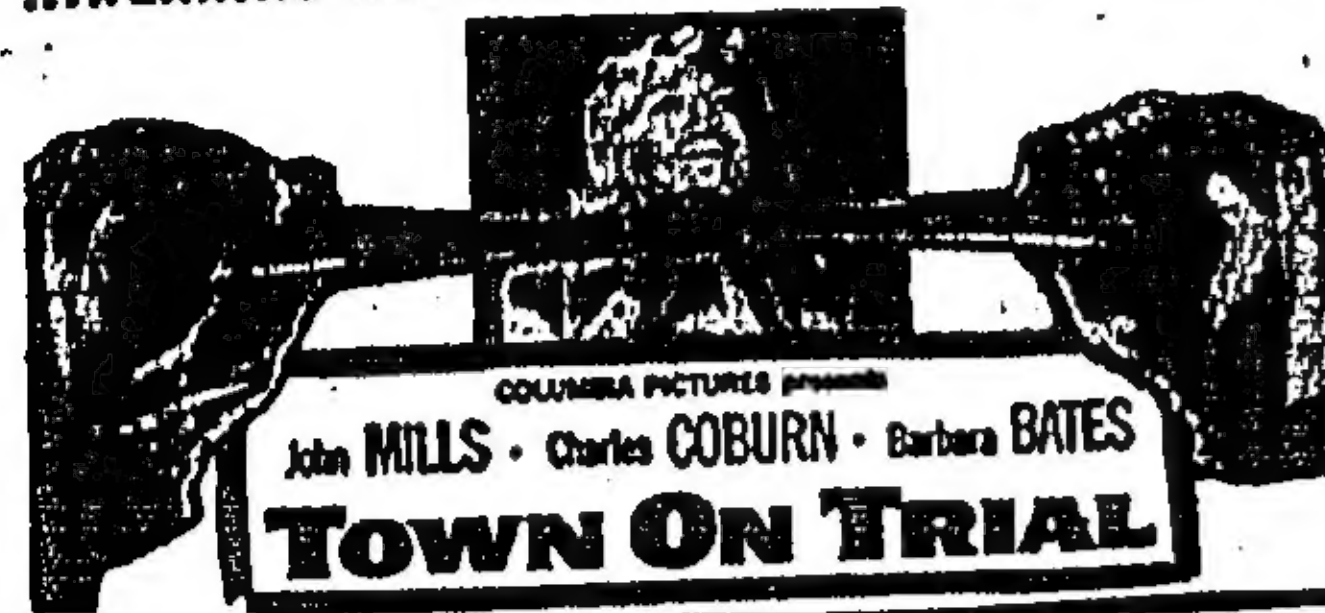
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3. "SPRING WATER"

4. "POLONAISE AND CRACOVIANNE"

5. "WALPURGISNACHT"

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AT 12.30 P.M.

HARPER GRANT in
"PHILADELPHIA"

NEXT CHANGE -
JACK PALANCE in
"THE BIG KISS"

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AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



TO-MORROW MORNING SHOW
AT 12.30 P.M.

HARPER GRANT in
"PHILADELPHIA"

NEXT CHANGE -
JACK PALANCE in
"THE BIG KISS"

PHILIPPINES ECONOMIC CRISIS: HELP FROM US?

Washington, Dec. 17. United States officials are actively discussing possible methods of helping the Philippines out of its present economic plight, which has been dramatised by a record drop in foreign exchange reserves and spiralling domestic prices.

This was reported today by informed sources who said that a large-scale stabilisation loan from the U.S. Government was among the possibilities being discussed.

Although the Philippine Government has not yet made a formal application for such a loan, American officials consider that it is only a matter of time until Manila appeals to Washington for aid.

Officials of the International Monetary Fund have been brought into the discussions from time to time to give the benefit of their advice as to just what sort of stabilisation programme should be carried out by the Philippines.

The Fund itself can advance no more money to the Philippines because Manila already has exhausted its credit there by drawing the entire \$15,000,000 Philippine quota. However, the fund, which has a large staff of monetary experts, can assist by preparing long-term stabilisation plans to be carried out with American aid.

The U.S. Treasury Department has authority to make stabilisation loans to friendly countries. So far this authority has been used principally to assist South American countries finding themselves in difficulties similar to those besetting the Philippines.

The American Export-Import Bank can, on occasion, make stabilisation loans, and officials said there was a possibility of some aid for Manila from this source.—United Press.

Chile Sends A Warship To Evict US Fishermen

Santiago, Dec. 17. A Chilean warship left Valparaiso on Monday with orders to board 20 American fishing boats forcibly if they refuse to be searched.

Agricultural Minister Mario Astorga announced that the Chilean government was continuing to operate despite Chilean warnings and instructions from US authorities to respect Chilean regulations.

On Friday, two Chilean Air Force planes fired warning shots at the 20 boats when attempts at radio contact failed. There were no casualties or damage in the shooting, and the vessels reportedly ignored the warning.—United Press.

Christmas Spirit

Tuscola, Dec. 17. The City Council has ordered Christmas wrappings for the town's parking meters. Each meter is covered by a paper bag bearing the words: "Free parking. Merry Christmas."—United Press.

British Sub Comes Home After 8 1/2 Years

Portsmouth, Dec. 17. The battered British submarine Thorough was back in home port today after living up to its name in a round-the-world tour of duty that took 2,791 days and covered 126,000 miles.

During more than 8 1/2 years away from Portsmouth the Thorough had four crews and became the first submarine to sail around the world.

The vessel, a veteran of World War II, also was the only submarine reported to have fired a shot in anger since the Korean war.

But the Thorough's reward is the scrap heap—it is worn out.

BRASS BAND

A brass band blared and a welcoming crowd cheered when the veteran submarine docked here with 53 seamen and seven officers.

It arrived 12 hours late because of safety precautions in connection with President Eisenhower's flight to Paris.

Only a few days from Portsmouth on its homeward trip from Australia, the Thorough was ordered to take part in "Operation Friendship," the sea watch along the route of Mr. Eisenhower's flight. But rough weather kept the vessel from reaching its post on time, and the orders were cancelled.

About a year ago, the Thorough was ordered to patrol the Malayan coast and watch for Communist guerrillas. It spotted some and opened fire—thus becoming the only sub to see action since the Korean conflict.—United Press.

CYPRIOTS ARE SPLIT UP

London, Dec. 17. The 20 Cypriot political prisoners who recently went on a two-day hunger strike in Wormwood Scrubs prison near London, have been split up and transferred to two different prisons. It was learned tonight.

Some of the prisoners have gone to Wakefield, Yorkshire, the rest to Maidstone, Kent. The prisoners refused to eat as a protest against statements by Allan Noble, British representative at the United Nations, that no Cypriot prisoners had been tortured.—France-Press.

TO-MORROW

ENTIRELY NEW VERSION OF THE EXCITING ADVENTURES OF "ALI-BABA and the 40 Thieves"

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IN COLOUR EASTMANCOLOR

QUEEN'S: ADDED ON STAGE

MARGARET Plus BILLY BANKS

MAURICE The Dynamic Singer

in Their Sensational WHIP BOLERO

DANCE de VALENTINO

NICK DEMUTH AT THE PIANO

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WHAT WAS THE TRUTH ABOUT THE GREAT MAN?

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ORIENTAL MAJESTIC

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SEE the Creature created by Man and forgotten by Nature!

The Curse of Frankenstein will haunt you forever!

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To-morrow: "VINTAGE"

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Morning Show To-Morrow

"ARROWHEAD"

Midnight sonata

COULDN'T SLEEP SO I THOUGHT I'D CATCH UP ON MY PRACTICE

WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS?

THE AUDACITY OF THE FELLOW

THERE'S A BURGULAR DOWNSTAIRS AND HE'S PLAYING THE PIANO!

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We Desire Peace, Says Premier Noon

Karachi, Dec. 17. New Pakistani Premier, Malik Feroz Khan Noon, said today his government will stand by Pakistan's international commitments and will make no foreign policy changes.

Speaking to the nation in his first radio broadcast since he took over the premiership, Noon stressed his desire to live in peace and friendship with India, as will all other neighbouring countries.

But he said he was resolved to see the Kashmir problem solved.

In his ten-minute speech, Noon said that in the internal political field, his government was committed to general elections "as soon as possible."

He asked for support for his policy which he said, would be aimed at ending the food shortage, obtaining self-sufficiency, expanding exports to obtain more foreign exchange, reducing inflation and eradicating corruption.—France-Press.

The Hand That Feeds

St Paul, Dec. 17. State Rep. Alfred J. Otto has been charged with violating a law that set a minimum price for liquor.

Otto was the author of the law in 1951.—United Press.

FREEDOM FIGHTERS ON TRIAL IN HUNGARY?

United Nations, Dec. 17. The Hungarian Government has denied reports from Vienna that three Hungarian generals, who took a leading part in the insurrection last year were now being tried in Hungary.

The denial was made in a letter handed today to the Secretary-General, Dag Hammarskjöld.

The letter delivered by the Hungarian delegation to the United Nations denied that Generals Pál Maléter, István Kovács and Sándor Kopasz were on trial and protested against the fact that Henry Cabot Lodge, American delegate to the U.N. had brought up the matter before the adjournment of the last General Assembly session.

The Hungarian delegation charged that Lodge was trying to revive tension with Hungary.—France-Press.

Thai Leftists Routed

Election Reverses In North-East Areas Reported

Bangkok, Dec. 17. Defeat of Thailand's extreme Leftwing developed into a complete rout today with further reverses reported from their stronghold in the northeastern provinces.

In Bangkok, all Leftwing candidates lost their deposits.

The Socialist Front had led an aggressive election campaign for withdrawal from the Southeast Asia Treaty Organisation, a neutralist policy and acceptance of aid from China.

No More Aid From Govt

Washington, Dec. 17. The State Department said today it plans no further actions on behalf of relatives who may wish to make a Christmas visit to the six Americans still held in Chinese jails.

The Department said there would be no difficulty about obtaining passports, but that the persons involved must obtain Peking permission to enter the country.—United Press.

They had pinned their hopes on winning a majority of the 53 seats in the northeast. But in the 32 seats so far decided there, most of the votes went to Independents, many of them members of the former Pibul Songgram government, and to candidates of the Unionist and Free Democrat parties.

The Unionists are a middle-of-the-road party.

Weakness

The position later today was: Independents 50, Unionists 33, Democrats 28, Socialist Front 8, Free Democrats 3.

The Socialist Front leader, Nai Thep Chulnuchit only just scraped through at the bottom of a list of four candidates in his own northeastern province of Sisaket.

Western observers said the main weakness of the election result was that no rightwing or middle-of-the-road party was in a strong enough position to form a government by itself.

Hard bargaining on the formation of a government and the choice of a premier is expected within the next few days.—Reuters.

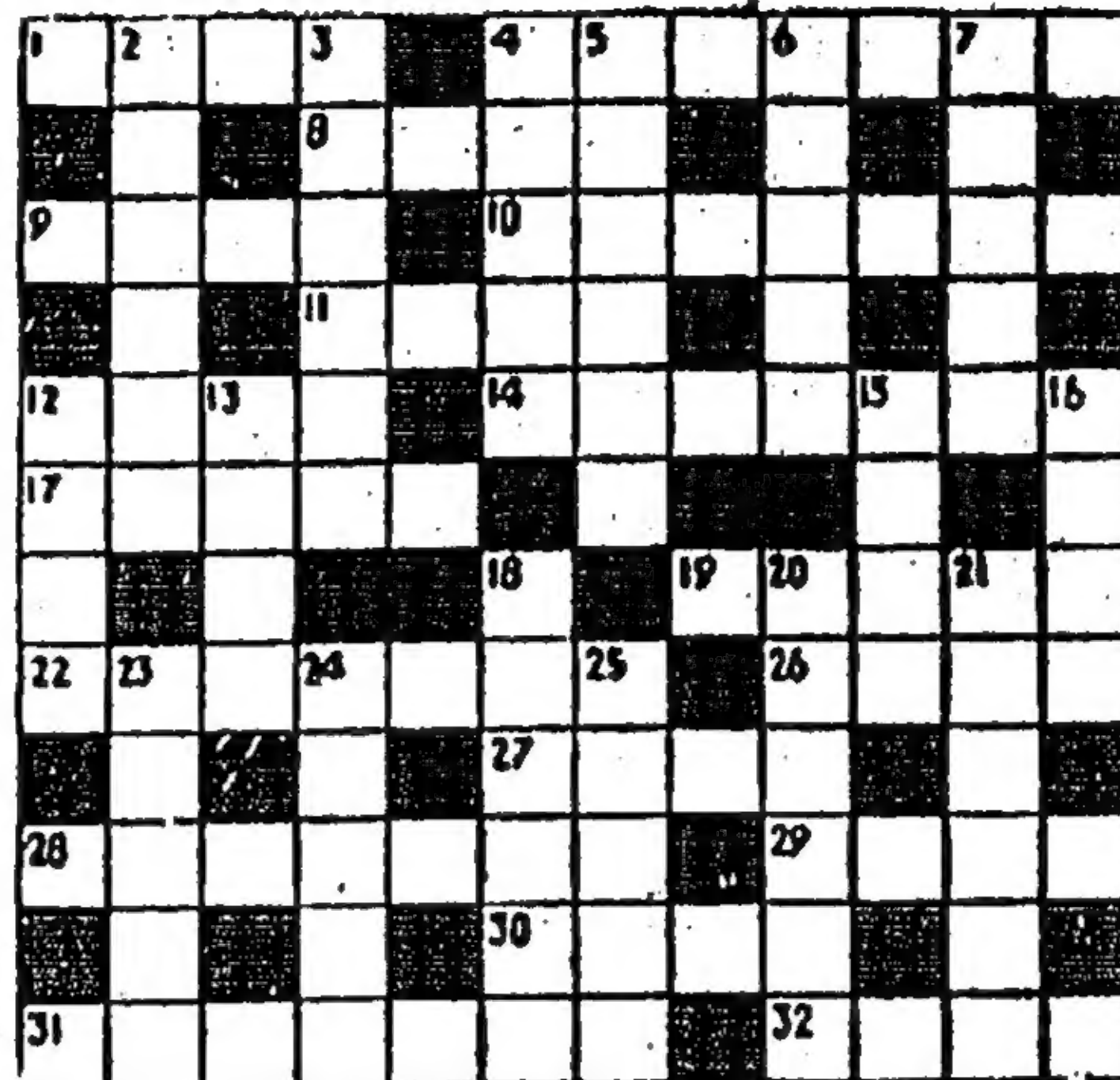
Norodom Wants To Return

Phnom Penh, Dec. 17. Wavering Prince Norodom Sihanouk, who resigned three times from premiership and once from the Cambodian throne, let it be known today he plans to return once again to public life.

Prince Sihanouk, who just returned from a trip to France, announced today in a national broadcast that "in a few days I will put myself at the disposal of the nation following the desire of the people."

The Prince also said that the present Premier will remain in his job but that the Cabinet will probably be reshuffled.—United Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS
1 Large landmass (4).
4 Tank general (7).
8 Duty list (4).
9 Landing-stage (4).
10 The successful candidate was (7).
11 Encourage to do wrong? (4).
12 A little bit of stuff, perhaps (4).
14 Abundant what's merited (7).
17 In no pacific mood (6).
19 Try to catch (5).
22 Showing no interest (7).
26 Fruit garden? (4).
27 Go up in the air (4).
28 Blows reveller? (7).
29 They may go with grapes (4).
30 Dance on a fishing-rod (4).
31 Non-stop? (7).
32 Clothes which won't go off (4).

DOWN
2 Between soldier and rich man (6).
3 Out and out (6).
4 Truly mount? (5).
5 Horse stopper? (6).
6 Dressmaking term (5).
7 Really wide awake (5).
12 Laid up (4).
13 Farm vehicle (4).
15 Highway (4).
16 Modern gun (4).
18 Severe and his kind (6).
20 Forerunner (6).
21 Get very angry (3, 3).
23 Bible man (5).
24 Thin food (5).
25 What the doctor ordered? (5).

TUESDAY'S CROSSWORD—Across: 1 Anthem, 5 Title, 8 Tapin, 9 Direct, 10 Doct, 11 Haven, 12 Toll, 13 Welds, 16 Pomade, 18 Surrey, 20 Scene, 22 Ivan, 23 Smelt, 25 Menal, 28 Aurora, 27 Fears, 28 Amber, 29 Skated, Down: 1 Auditors, 2 Tyrols, 3 Etch, 4 Maludor, 5 Tideway, 6 Ironed, 7 Liked, 14 Leave out, 15 Standard, 16 Premier, 17 Medlars, 19 Unsafe, 21 Cream, 24 Tusk.

Here are the GIFTS

GAMES
BOOKS
DOLLS

Marklin Train Sets - Bikes
Trikes - Chemistry Sets
Nursing Sets - Cars - Boats
Electrical Toys - Plastic Toys
Aeroplanes - X'mas Crackers
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Forts
Soldiers
Wooden Toys
Dollies Prams
Tea Sets - Space
Guns - Meccano
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Dinky Toys - Bubbles
Wooden Toys - Tops
Sewing Sets - Teddies

KINDERGARTEN TOYS

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The Dairy Farm Christmas Fare

Prime Oven-Ready American TURKEYS, 8-20 lbs. \$4.50 a lb.

Fine Oven-Ready American GEESSE 4-6 lbs.

The Dairy Farm "Daisy Brand" Mild Cured HAM

SPICE ISLANDS' POULTRY SEASONING

"Bird's Eye" Fresh Frozen Vegetables

Fresh Frozen Christmas Puddings

Crosse & Blackwell's Christmas Dates

Pedini Eggs & Jaffa Dates

CADBERY'S Gift Boxes of Chocolates

Long Island DUCKLINGS 3-5 lbs.

Pineapple HAMS

The Dairy Farm Chestnut & Pork Sausage Meat Stuffings

MONARCH Fruits & Vegetables

Robertson's Mince-meat

Red and White CHESHIRE CHEESES

Huntley & Palmer's Biscuits

The Dairy Farm Special Blue Seal Egg Nogg Mix

Prime Oven-Ready American TURKEYS, 8-20 lbs. \$4.50 a lb.

Prime BEEF ROASTS

Spring CHICKENS 1 lb. each

The Dairy Farm Sage & Onion and Parsley & Thyme Stuffings

A range of MONARCH COCKTAIL ITEMS

Kellier's Mince-meat

Loaves of BILKON CHEESE

Batger's Christmas Crackers

Idlewild Farm ROCK CORNISH GAME HENS 12-16 oz.

The Dairy Farm FARM-FED PORK

Australian LEGS OF LAMB

S & W Branded Mince-meat

Italian GORGONZOLA CHEESE

Young's Devonshire Clotted Cream

SUCHARD Gift Boxes of Chocolates

The Dairy Farm BLUE SEAL MILK

Phenomena, Sand Grouse, Teal Ducks and Rabbits

Combed OX TONGUES

"Bird's Eye" Fresh Frozen Fruit

DOUBLE GLOUCESTER CHEESE

"Big Sister" FRUIT CAKES

NESTLE'S Gift Boxes of Chocolates

SPICE ISLANDS' GIFT BOXES

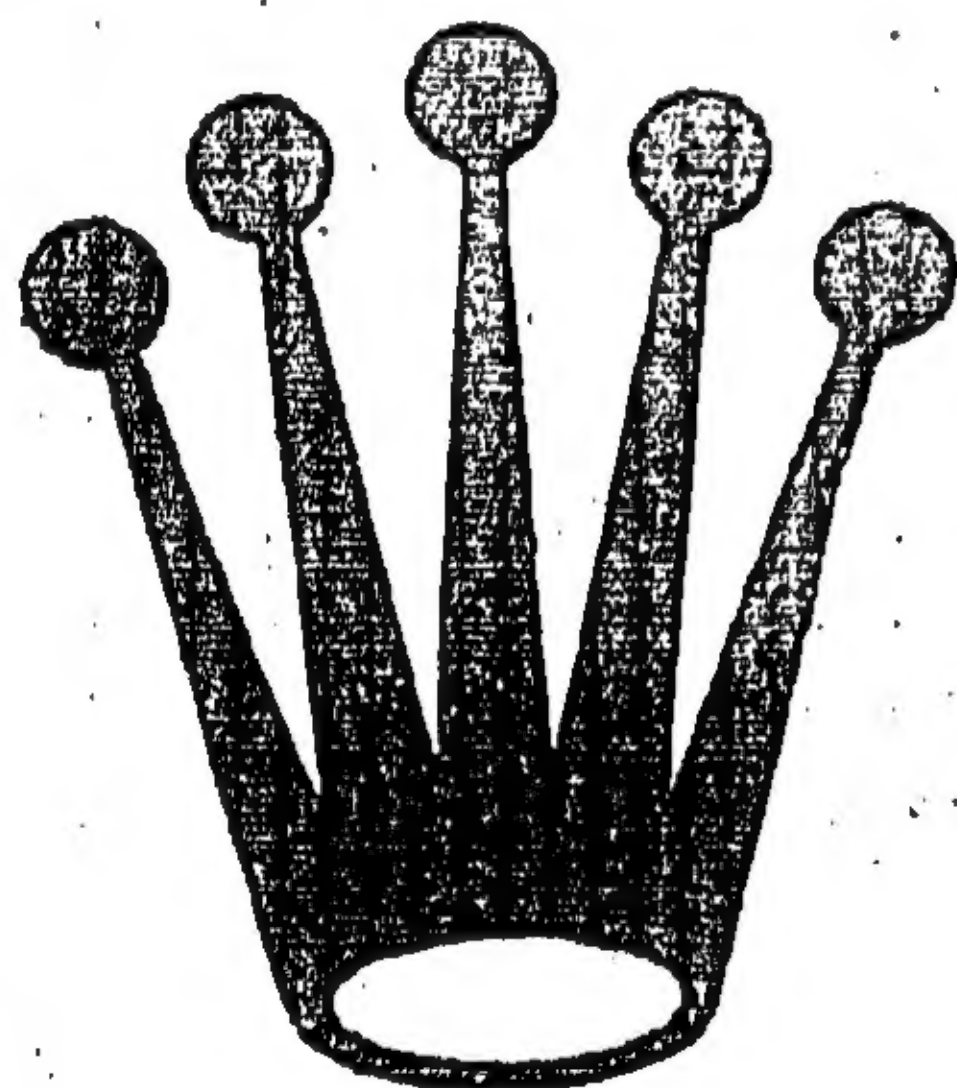
The Dairy Farm FARM-FED MILK

One Store will be open for Christmas Shopping during the following hours on Saturday, 21st Dec:

Woolworth House Branch	9.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.
Moscow House Branch	9.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.
Peak Branch	9.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.
Peak W.G. Branch	9.30 a.m. - 1.00 p.m.
Lower King's Rd. Service Store	9.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.
Watlington Rd. Service Store	9.30 a.m. - 4.00 p.m.

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ICE & GOLD
STORAGE CO. LTD.

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very
merry
Christmas
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SYMBOL OF TRUST"

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A landmark in the history of Time measurement



THE CHOCOLATES WITH THE

DAIRY BOX

Wonderful
centres

Here, resplendent in his uniform as
Warden of the Cinque Ports...



BUT YOU SHOULD SEE HIM IN A TOWEL!

THE knee-length dressing gown lay crumpled on the corridor floor. I watched Mr Churchill as he strode towards the bathroom WEARING ONLY HIS CIGAR.

He removed his cigar to say a cheerful "Good Morning" to the Swiss maid vacuum-cleaning the floor.

She glanced up and replied. There was no astonishment on her face as the Guv'nor—in a state of complete readiness to step into his bath—walked by. To her the scene was a matter of no concern.

But it made MY eyes pop out of my head the first time I saw it happen at Chartwell, Mr Churchill's lovely home in Kent.

I got used to informality during my four years as Mr Churchill's valet.

On the one occasion when I went sick I lay in bed in a room adjoining Mr Churchill's and could hear and sometimes see him.

When he got up he was told that I was not well.

A few minutes later I heard the bathroom door slam and wondered how Mr Churchill would cope without his valet.

I knew he always shaved himself with a safety razor before wallowing in a bath filled to the brim with water.

From my bedroom I could hear the splashing as he sponged himself with the outside sponge he always used.

He would go to the window in his dressing-gown and if it was raining or cloudy he would curse the weather for about five minutes while I remade his bed.

I LISTENED for the signal which always told me Mr Churchill's bath was almost over.

I didn't have to wait long before I heard a noise like a whale "blowing."

Mr Churchill had his mouth under the water and was blowing bubbles. He seemed to like to do it just before he left the tub.

The bathroom door opened and out he came with the out-

size bath towel—it was really two sewn together—draped loosely over his shoulders.

As he padded barefoot back to his bedroom I wondered how he would get on without me.

I always towelled him down and handed him his clothes.

Next day, when I did the towelling, Mr Churchill made it clear to me that he was glad I was back.

The rest had done me the world of good.

I needed it after valeting my beloved Guv'nor sometimes beginning at 8 a.m. and signing off at 4 a.m. the following day.

Working such odd hours for Mr Churchill left me feeling like a bullfighter who had fought three fights in a row.

His life between bath and bed was all bustle. And he loved it all three. Let me give you some idea of a typical Churchill day.

8.30 A.M.—I would creep into his room, shake him gently.

Then I would stand back and wait. I knew his mood from that moment.

If I got a GRUNT it was going to be one of the BAD days.

If he said "GOOD MORNING, NORMAN," it was going to be a GOOD day.

As he sipped his orange juice (it had to be the bottled kind because he couldn't stand fresh oranges) I would draw back the curtains.

I always prayed for fine weather.

He would go to the window in his dressing-gown and if it was raining or cloudy he would curse the weather for about five minutes while I remade his bed.

But he wrote hundreds of letters as well.

NOON—I would begin to plan my campaign to get Mr Churchill out of bed in time for lunch.

He was mostly dictating his books.

One of my most successful tricks was to nip smartly to the front door and ring the bell furiously. Then I would dash back to Mr Churchill and say: "The guests have arrived."

Reluctantly he would dismiss the secretaries and say: "Norman, run my bath."

But it wasn't as simple as that. He would lie back and start revising proofs.

An hour later he would still be in bed.

I would warm up the bath again and again.

No matter how long it took him to get to the bathroom the temperature of the water always had to be just right.

I had to test it carefully with my elbow.

Once he fooled me. He dived into the bathroom just after I had filled it with very hot water, expecting him to dilly-dally for half an hour while it cooled.

He stepped in without testing it. He roared so much that I ran away and hid until he had calmed down.

As soon as he got into the bath he would start muttering.

For a long time I used to think he was talking to me, but

He couldn't eat his breakfast from the desk-sized bed table unless the sponges were in position.

He told me it made his elbows sore.

Breakfast was always a problem. He had his fads.

He always insisted on a pot of tea and an outsize cup for the only cup of tea he had during the day.

Then he always wanted something hot and something cold.

For instance, if he had been and eggs he demanded cold ham as well.

8.30 A.M.—I would order his first weak whisky and soda before he started dictating to his secretaries.

And for the rest of the day the glass was never empty.

But he drank very slowly, probably less than one glass every two hours.

I had to keep popping into his bedroom when he was dictating because he had a habit of throwing his lit cigarettes into the waste paper basket.

He caused several fires when I didn't pop in often enough. I put them out with a soda siphon.

I USED to feel sorry for the secretaries. There were eight of them and they used to take dictation in relays in the Guv'nor's bedroom.

He was mostly dictating his books.

But he wrote hundreds of letters as well.

NOON—I would begin to plan my campaign to get Mr Churchill out of bed in time for lunch.

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As soon as he got into the bath he would start muttering.

For a long time I used to think he was talking to me, but



Churchill emerged from his bath at home looking very much as he looks here at Venice after a swim. Valet Norman McGowan is in the top left corner of this intimate picture.

WORLD COPYRIGHT

then I realised what he was doing.

THIS WAS WHERE HE THOUGHT OUT SOME OF HIS IMPORTANT SPEECHES.

Once when he was muttering I went in and asked him if he wanted me.

"I wasn't talking to you, Norman," he said, "I was addressing the House of Commons."

He thought nothing of calling one of the secretaries to the bathroom door if he thought up

he would go to bed until six o'clock.

It didn't matter where he was, he demanded that a bed should be found.

EVEN on his election tour train there had to be a bed—a big one.

It was necessary to tear the side off the coach to get it in.

It was after one of his afternoon naps that Mr Churchill had his most embarrassing moment.

We had been to Windsor and a room had been provided for Mr Churchill's nap.

He had just got up when Prince Charles was brought into the room to be introduced.

Mr Churchill shook hands gravely and chatted to the young Prince for a few minutes before he realised he was standing in his SHIRT AND UNDERPANTS.

Red-faced officials ushered Prince Charles from the room.

6 P.M.—Time to wake him from that nap.

Immediately he started dictating again from his bed. Sometimes he would stay in bed nearly until dinner time.

Then the panic of getting him up and bathed for the second time began all over again.

After his bath he would put on the blue velvet "siren suit" overalls he always wore for dinner.

Then he would put on his blue velvet slippers, embroidered with his initials.

8.30 P.M.—Down to dinner. Mr Churchill's dinners were always friendly affairs.

He like plain food. Soup, chicken, and then his favourite meat—saddle of beef.

He had a passion for cream. In fact on occasions he was positively rude about it.

He would always almost empty the jug himself and look round the table.

"Does anyone want cream?" he would ask pugnaciously.

I think it was his liking for cream that made Mr Churchill worry so much about his waist-line.

She wanted him to do exercises to get it down.

Every morning she would ask me: "Norman, has Mr Churchill done his exercises?"

I always had to make some excuse, for he didn't like doing exercises.

ONE morning she had a notice prepared and stuck it on his dressing table mirror.

It read "Natal exercises." I made it read "Tee-natal" just for fun.

Mr Churchill studied this notice quietly for about five minutes as he tied his bow, and then called me over and asked: "Norman, do I look pregnant?"

Mr Churchill always finished his dinner with his favourite cheese—Stilton—and a glass of good port.

Sometimes he would linger over it until very late.

MIDNIGHT—He would go upstairs—but not to sleep.

Instead of his bedroom he would go to his adjoining study, and send for his secretaries.

Then he would start dictating again for two hours or more.

The last thing he always did was to brush his hair.

He insisted on brushing the few strands of hair he had straight down over his ears.

"That's the only way to keep your hair, Norman," he used to tell me.

2 TO 4 A.M.—I would put out the light and creep out. Then he would shout again:—

"Norman, you have forgotten my eye blinkers."

He always wanted these black pads handy so that he could slip them on if the morning light woke him up.

So our eighteen to twenty-hour day came to an end... unless the Guv'nor remembered his pets.

I'LL TELL YOU ABOUT HIS LOVE FOR THESE FISH, DOGS, SWANS, PIGS AND COWS—AND THE GOAT THAT GOT MY COAT—TOMORROW.

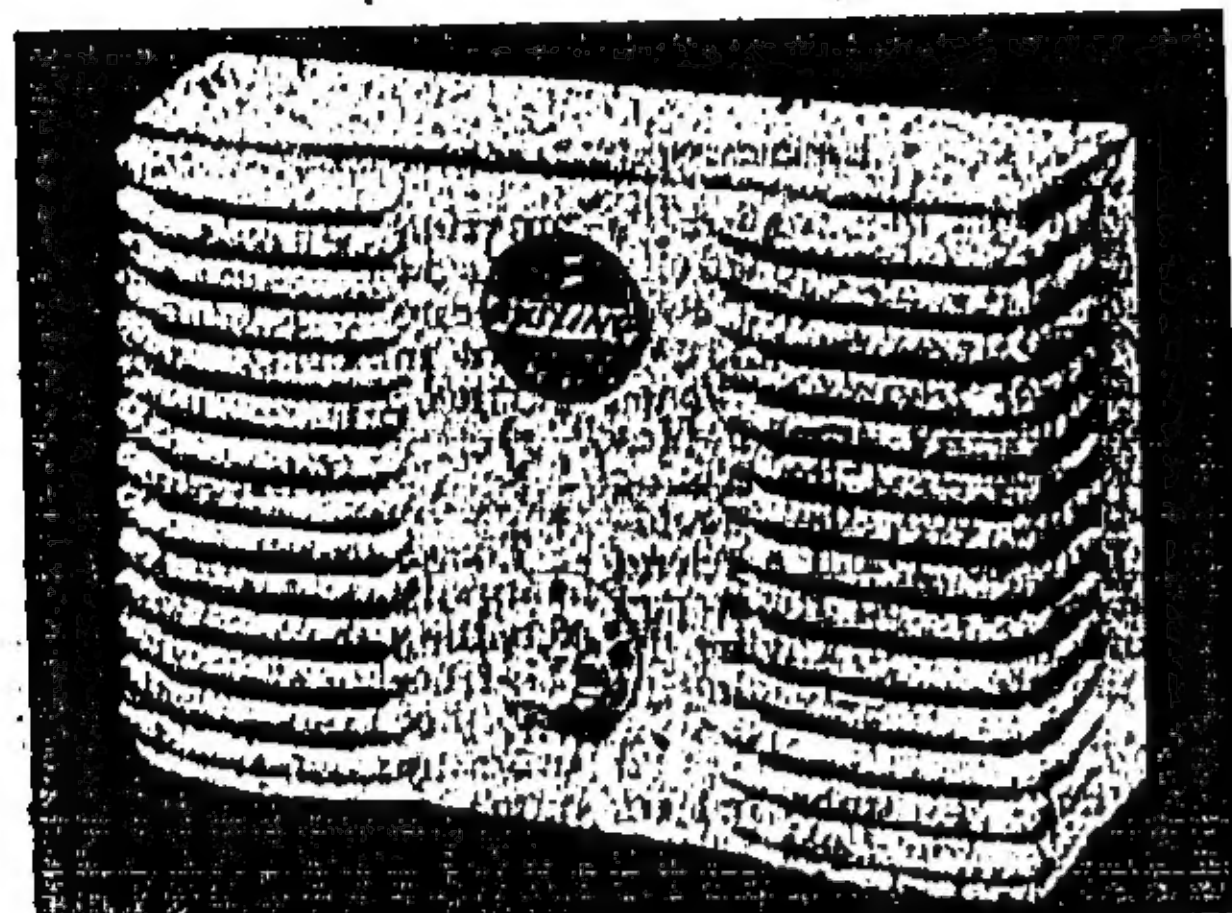
POCKET CARTOON
by OSBERT LANCASTER



"You lucky British should realise that if they weren't so busy on their memoirs they'd probably be doing something far worse—the running for President."

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The Spotlight beams this week on 74 LAA Regt., RA, and from this very sporting unit Tommy Atkins selects two of its members who have particularly excelled themselves in the world of sport during the past few days. I refer to L/Bdr. Peter McNicol and Bdr. John Innes.

McNicol, as his name implies, hails from over the Border, Crockcroft, Dumfries, to be exact, and is 21 years old and a regular soldier. He has been in the Colony only two years and has played football for his Regiment and on occasions in the Army senior and reserve sides, as a goalkeeper.

At the end of last month he entered the 'Absolute Novices' boxing competition and won his weight, and I would like to think that this success spurred him on to his real claim to local fame.

Stepping in to the Army Senior eleven at short notice due to the injury of the regular keeper, he faced the might of South China in the Senior Shield, and, by near miracle saves, kept his team in with a chance right up to the final whistle.

Following this up with a good display for Combined Services has brought him Colony honours for his selection to appear for a Hongkong Selected XI against the visiting Australian team in this month. Good luck, Peter, and may the ball run right for you.

The other co-futured sportsman is an NCO whom the Committee at the first 'Absolute Novices' meeting 'wooded' out very rapidly when they saw him in action, and how right they were to do so. Bdr. Innes is I am sure, a novice, but what a novice!

From Luton, Bedfordshire, this 19-year-old regular soldier is a 'natural'. Winning the Land Forces Novices Lt.-Middleweight Championship at Sek Kong last Thursday, he displayed ability which, if properly directed, will bring him many honours, and he is in my opinion a very likely prospect to 'do a Henderson' this year and take Novice, Individual and FAIRFEL titles all in one season.

Promising Start

The 57 entries for the Land Forces Novices Championships, while not a record, is a promising start to the season. Looking at the breakdown of entries by weight, I found it interesting to note that the Light-Middle, Middle and Light-Heavyweight classes are well patronised, whereas the Welteers, a class that in your scribes' boxing days was always more than well subscribed to, seems now by comparison deserted. Can it be that the cooks are feeding us better?

The organisation of the meeting was again in the hands of the DOPT and his merry men, everything went with a swing.

Generally the standard was very high, and while only two bouts really had the spectators out of their seats, I saw 'none of the customers leaving early, so it can be presumed that they were satisfied.

With the television cameras in attendance for I think the first time at an Army tournament, everyone was on their best behaviour and those fortunate enough to have a seat will agree that the cameraman did a very good job in catching the tense expressions on the spectators' faces. Some were even letting their ice-cream melt in the excitement, and I was intrigued by the second who hid his face rather than see his principle get hit!

The pleasing aspect of this competition is the emergence of such units as 8 Coy. RASC (combined with 3 Supply Depot) and 6 COD, who had six and three finalists, respectively, a very good effort for units without much in the way of training facilities.

I am convinced that it only needs interest in a unit for any sport to find its feet and do well, be it boxing or any other of the major pastimes, and here's hoping that energetic sports officers will turn their thoughts to the noble art, and produce for the approaching Team Championships, sides which will do their units justice.

Basketball

Basketball gets under way again and this season's plans were formulated at a meeting held a few days ago under the Chairmanship of Major G. W. P. Hodding, M.C., with player, coach, referee, secretary CSMI Fred Kirkham, APTC, taking the notes. Major and Minor Unit Leagues will be run as before and entries are required before December 31.

League Secretaries will be Capt. Jim Howe, MBE, of HKCTU, who will control the Kowloon and Island Zone, while QMSI Dalgetty, APTC, supervises the units in the New Territories.

The Chinese Training Unit, 56 Coy. RASC and 62 Int. Sqdn. RE are far too strong for any minor unit and have, therefore, been promoted to the Senior League where I have no doubt they will make their presence felt.

The most pressing need is for referees. So short are they of these necessary adjuncts to the game that permission has been granted for only one qualified official to control each game until more volunteers are forthcoming. A course will be held in January and it is hoped that a large number will attend.

Turpin-Pastrano
Bout Banned:
"Too Uneven"

London, Dec. 17.
The British Boxing Board of Control today decided to ban a heavyweight bout between British veteran Randy Turpin and young American rising star, Willie Pastrano, that was to have been held at Leicester on February 3 next year.

The Board of Control justified its decision by stating that the proposed bout would not serve the interests of boxing but gave no further explanation. It was understood here that the ban was decided because the bout would have been too uneven.

Pastrano, fourth ranking world heavyweight is only 22 and has lost one fight (on a split decision) in four years. Turpin, who is 29, and has a long career behind him, has lost four bouts over the same period and his victories have been over relatively modest opponents. Besides, this was to have been Turpin's first heavyweight bout and he would have been at least a stone lighter than Pastrano.

Turpin, who was for a short time World Middleweight Boxing Champion in the interval between a victory over and a defeat at the hands of Sugar Ray Robinson, is the reigning British Light - Heavyweight Champion. —France-Press.

VAN RYNEVELD
WILL MISS
FIRST TEST

Capetown, Dec. 17.
Clive van Ryneveld, who had been appointed captain of South Africa's team for the first two Tests against Australia, injured his hand today and will have to miss the first Test next week.

The injury occurred when van Ryneveld was fielding during the match here in which the Australians beat Western Province by ten wickets.

In the closing stages he tried to stop a hard drive from Richie Benaud and split his hand between the thumb and forefinger. He had four stitches in it and the doctors said it would take ten days to heal. —China Mail Special.

AUSTRALIANS WIN BY 10 WICKETS

Lindsay Kline Takes
Six For 65

Capetown, Dec. 17.

Western Province collapsed after tea against the touring Australian team here today and the Australians scored a fine victory by 10 wickets. The Province lost their last six wickets in half an hour, to be all out for 231, as left-arm spinner Lindsay Kline took six wickets for 65.

The Australians were left 38 minutes in which to hit 65 runs for victory, but Benaud and McDonald required only 18 minutes to get the necessary runs.

In a whirlwind partnership, the pair hit the runs in 18 minutes off 34 balls. They cracked 17 off the first over, and altogether needed only 24 scoring shots, nine of which were boundaries.

Western Province had raised their score to 205 for four by the tea interval, so saving the innings defeat.

At lunch today, the final day of the match, Western Province had scored 112 for two wickets in their second innings and were still 65 runs behind. Australia led on the first innings with 421 against 244 and there was no play yesterday—a religious holiday in South Africa.

Western Province resumed at their Saturday score of 53 for two wickets and Tony Pithey and Jack Nel carried the score to 84 when both were dismissed.

Dick Westcott, who had opened the innings with Pithey but retired hurt after being struck on the left elbow on Saturday, continued his innings after the first wicket had fallen. Richie Benaud, turning his leg spinners, was the most dangerous-looking Australian bowler this morning and was responsible for the dismissal of Pithey.

The third wicket fell after lunch with the scoreboard showing 117, but then Westcott and Clive van Ryneveld put on 82 runs in 50 minutes. Westcott's 60 took 202 minutes.

After that came the collapse, the whole side being out for 231.

The Scoreboard

WESTERN PROVINCE
First Innings
244 (A. Pithey 62, G. Innes 49, Meckiff 4 for 52).

Second Innings			
A. Pithey, b. Benaud	40		
R. Westcott, lbw, b. Kline	60		
J. Nel, b. Mackay	33		
G. Innes, c. Burke b. Kline	11		
C. van Ryneveld, c. Burke b. Benaud	53		
J. Ferrandi, b. Kline	3		
B. Pfaff, c. Jorman b. Kline	9		
E. Fuller, c. Mackay b. Benaud	0		
J. Potheuary, not out	10		
G. Steyn, b. Kline	4		
H. Bromfield, c. Harvey b. Kline	0		
Extras	8		
Total	231		

Bowling			
Meckiff	13	4	35
Mackay	12	6	10
Benaud	30	12	68
Kline	21	7	65
Burke	8	0	22
Davidson	4	2	8
Harvey	8	4	8

AUSTRALIANS			
First Innings			
421 (A. Davidson 76, J. Burke 72, R. N. Harvey 63, H. Bromfield 4 for 68).			
Second Innings			
R. Benaud, not out	32		
C. McDonald, not out	23		
Extras	0		
Total (no wicket)	55		

Bowling			
Fuller	2	0	32
Pothecary	2	0	23
—Reuter.			

Newcastle "A" Should Be
Fairly Strong Against
Civilians This Evening

Says "PAK LO"

This evening on their own ground under floodlights the Club "A" are taking on Newcastle "A" at 8.30 p.m. in what should turn out to be a hard and fast encounter.

Some of the Newcastle players were seen in action with the Navy XV on Saturday afternoon, and each and every one of them impressed. The Newcastle XV should be fairly strong particularly in the forwards.

The Club forwards need little or no introduction and, as one of the best packs in the Colony, should hold, if they do not overwhelm, the Navy forwards. As the Club back division has been playing so well of late, it is unlikely that the Club forwards will stir their throats, and this should not develop into a forward battle, but should have plenty of aggressive open play.

No Valentine

Valentine is missing from the Club line-up due to injuries, and O'Kelly moves up outside Taneock. The three line remains unchanged and either

Martin or Kirkwood will take over the full back spot. A steady supply of the ball to the Club three will help them win and win convincingly tonight. Thomas, the Navy hooker, has proved himself a veritable tower of strength, not only in the set scrums but in the loose, and Shaffer, his opposite number will have his work cut out to get the better of him. The Navy three are fast, but are not quite on a par with the Club when it comes to handling, and this will be a decided advantage to the Club. A win for the Civilians is my forecast here.



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THE GAMBOLS

By Barry Appleby



A NEW ERA IN AUSTRALIAN CRICKET

ONLY SEIXAS CERTAIN TO PLAY

Empire Games Are Here To Stay, Says Duke

London, Dec. 17. The Duke of Edinburgh, President of the British Empire and Commonwealth Games Federation speaking at a dinner here tonight to celebrate the Federation's 25th anniversary, said the Games had done a great deal for sport within the Commonwealth and for the Commonwealth.

"I believe they are here to stay," he said. Referring to next year's Games in Cardiff, one of the world's leading rugby centres, the Duke said he was sure Cardiff would make a success of staging the Games and added with a smile, "Even though rugby is not included."

Welcoming ten High Commissioners, the Duke told them they could write home and say that Cardiff was "getting on with it," and there was sure to be a warm welcome to as many people as could possibly squeeze into the city.—Reuters.

Melbourne, Dec. 18. Captain Bill Talbert said today that Vic Seixas, 34-year-old Philadelphia star, is the only member of the United States Davis Cup team who is certain to play against Australia in the Challenge Round, from December 28 to 29.

Talbert has named Seixas, Gardner Mulloy, Barry Mackay, and Ron Holmberg to his team. But he said workouts and practice matches this week and early next week would determine which player or players will team with Seixas in the Challenge Round.

Only One

"Seixas is the only certainty to play in the Challenge Round," Talbert said. "Either Mackay or Holmberg will fill the other singles berth. Mulloy will be the last choice for the singles."

"The doubles combination is wide open. Seixas and Mackay are being tried first."

Mulloy, 44, played poorly last Friday at Brisbane when he and Seixas dropped a

doubles decision to Belgium's Philippe Washer and Jackie Brichant in the Inter-Zone Final.

Talbert evidently has decided to replace Mulloy in the doubles to play against Australia, 19, or Mackay, 22, if either makes an impressive showing in practice matches.

Disappointed

Meanwhile, Herb Flam, bitterly disappointed because he was left off the US team for the Challenge Round, went into seclusion. Talbert left Flam on the team when he announced it yesterday. Doctors advised that Flam, who has been jittery and nervous, was in no condition to play.

Harry Hopman, manager of the Australian team, said Flam's troubles might prove a blessing to the Yanks.

"In Mackay and Holmberg, America has two young men capable of playing terrific tennis at times," Hopman said. "Flam's unavailability could prove a blessing in disguise for the United States."—United Press.

Wave Of Optimism Among The Enthusiasts As First Test Approaches

By DEREK JOHN

Is this the dawn of a great new era in Australian cricket? A few months ago this question would have seemed absurd. Yet now, as the First Test against South Africa approaches, there is a new wave of optimism among Australian cricket enthusiasts.

They are saying not only that the Aussies will retain their unbeaten record in a series in South Africa, but that they may also humble England's mighty cricketers next year. Even Ian Johnson, who has bitter experience of England's strength, is very hopeful. Says the former Test captain: "Australian cricket is now on the eve of a boom."

Why this sudden change of heart? How can the Aussies achieve greatness when they have lost such stars as Keith Miller, Ray Lindwall, Ian Johnson, Lindsay Hassett and Gil Langley?

One reason is the success to date of the Australian tour. The Aussies have not been beaten, and, by thrashing a South African XI, they have bettered the record of the MCC in South Africa last year.

Another reason is the great debut made by 22-year-old Ian Craig as Australian captain. He has used his bowlers well and notched up several centuries already.

Speed Merchants

But most of all hopes have been raised by a broad-shouldered, 8ft. bank clerk from Sydney. His name: Alan Davidson.

Davidson, a 27-year-old left-hander, has emerged as the most dangerous of all Australian fast bowlers. He has proved more successful with the new ball than either of the other speed merchants—Ian Meckiff and John Drennan.

Indeed, he has been hailed as the finest all-rounder among the tourists. He has long been

called "The Clutch" because of his brilliance in the field, and he is a competent, hard-hitting batsman.

I am particularly pleased to report Davidson's great success as a bowler. In recent years his record has suffered because of injury and because of the dominance of Miller and Lindwall.

He has not had many opportunities to show his skill with the new ball. And his development as a natural fast bowler was not helped two years ago when Ian Johnson tried to convert him into a spinner.

Only one other bowler has enjoyed such success as Davidson in South Africa—all-rounder Richie Benaud. Remarkably, he has bowled 220 covers in his first five first class matches, compared with Johnny Wardle's 380 overs on the whole of the MCC's last tour.

Yet the Australians cannot be really happy about their bowling strength. Before the tour, fast left-hander Meckiff was regarded as the spearhead of the attack. So far, he has displayed a sad lack of control.

Lindsay Kline, one of only two recognised spin bowlers on the tour, has also disappointed. And for these reasons I would certainly hesitate to predict a

great new era of Australian cricket.

The Aussies may well win the rubber in South Africa. But they cannot afford a single injury among their star bowlers.

Tour Of Canada

Here's an MCC tour with a difference. Before or after an MCC team make their seven-week tour of Canada in July, 1959, they may play in the United States.

The MCC have been approached by Sir Harold Caccia, British Ambassador in Washington, and fixtures in Washington and New York have been suggested.

An American friend warned me: "Say, bud, we got some mighty slick pitchers and strokeurs out there."

Gordon Pirie has a flair for the unusual—and now he is topping all his past headline-hitting endeavours. He is turning from long distance running to long distance driving.

And the emphasis is on "long distance." He plans to drive back to New Zealand after next year's athletic season. His wife, formerly Shirley Hampton, the international sprinter, will accompany him.

Is Gordon serious? It seems so. For he has already found two friends who want to travel with him, and he is seeking two others to make up a party of six. This will cut expenses; he has bought an estate wagon with sleeping room for six.

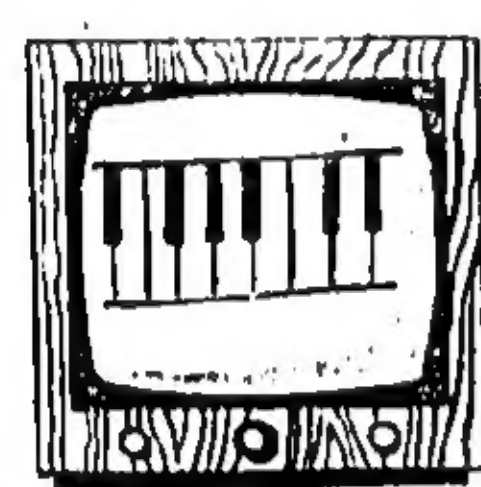
Pirie's progress is to be made via the Continent, Kenya and South Africa. Then by ship to Fremantle, across Australia, by car, and by ship to New Zealand.

On the way he may do some lecturing and coaching. (London Express Service). (COPYRIGHT)



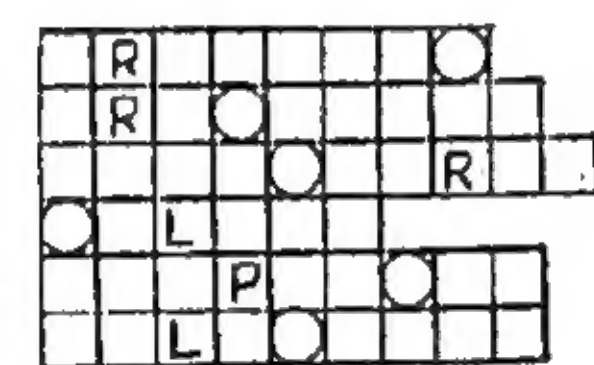
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NAMESAKES

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Solution on Page 9

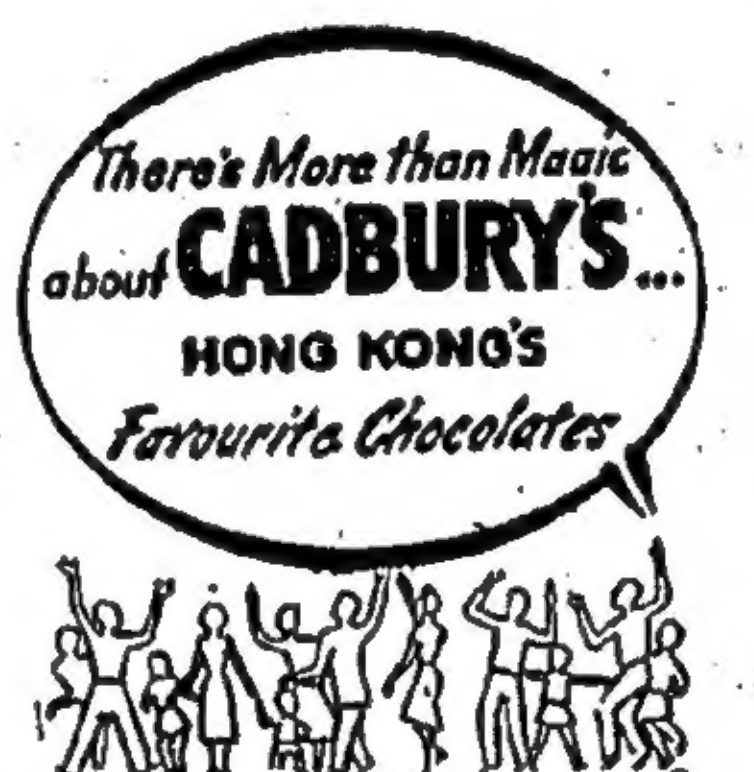
- 1 Christian name
- 2 Band
- 3 Stringed instrument
- 4 East European state
- 5 Making up
- 6 Kind of dance



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for 1 DAY PREPAID
ADDITIONAL INSERTIONS
\$2.00 PER DAY
10 cents PER WORD OVER 20
Births, Deaths, Marriages,
Personal \$5.00 per insertion
not exceeding 25 words, 25
cents each additional word.
ALTERNATE INSERTIONS
10% EXTRA
If not prepaid a booking fee
of 50 cents is charged.

WANTED KNOWN
SPORTS FIMPLEST "ESKAMER"
concessions as it holds a handy
tube today. Two areas available
from leading Dispensaries and
Stores.
GIFTS—Several shipments recently
arrived. Over one thousand attrac-
tive items. Duval Ltd., Home Ac-
cessory and Gift Shop, Garden Road,
Hongkong.

MUSICAL
RECOMMENDED RECORD GIFTS
for Christmas are Chopin's Nocturnes,
Handel's Concerti Grossi, Glen Miller
Album, Artie Shaw Album, Schubert/
Beethoven Complete Piano Sonatas,
French, Italian, German, Spanish
Language Sets etc. For the best in
Popular and Classical records, visit
Essex & Co., 750, Alexandra House,
Telephone 30189, 22600.

China Mail Entertainment Guide

WHAT'S ON TONIGHT

KING'S & PRINCESS: "Town On Trial." John Mills, Charles Coburn and Barbara Bates in a suspense drama.
QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA: "The D.I." Jack Webb as the tough sergeant in the US Marine Corps.
ROXY & BROADWAY: "Kiss Them For Me." Cary Grant, Jayne Mansfield and Suzy Parker. Four riotous days of leave.
STAR & METROPOLE: "Bayou." Peter Graves and Lita Milan in New Orleans.
HOOVER & LIBERTY: "The Seventh Sin." Eleanor Parker, Bill Travers, George Sanders and Jean Pierre Aumont. A powerful drama with a Hongkong setting.
LEE: "The Bolshoi Ballet." Galina Ulanova at the Covent Garden.
RITZ: "Phantom Of The Rue Morgue." Karl Malden and Patricia Medina in a thriller.
CAPITOL: "The Mole People." Science-fiction.
MAJESTIC: "The Sun Also Rises." Tyrone Power and Ava Gardner in a Hemingway novel.
ORIENTAL: "The Curse Of Frankenstein."
MAJESTIC: "The Deerslayer." Lex Barker, Rita Moreno in an American classic.

NOTICE

VEHICULAR FERRY SERVICE

The Vehicular Ferry Service will be extended up to 3.00 a.m. on the following dates:—

CHRISTMAS

24th, 25th & 26th December

NEW YEAR'S EVE

31st December

THE HONGKONG & YAU MATI FERRY CO., LTD.

Hongkong, 16th Dec., 1957.

MISSILE SHIPS

Boston, Dec. 17.
Three American heavy cruisers—the Chicago, Albany and Fall River—are to be converted to carry guided missiles, the United States Navy announced here today.—Reuter.

Jordan Complaint

United Nations, Dec. 17.
The Security Council will meet on Thursday to discuss the Jordan complaint against Israel regarding agricultural work in the "no-man's-land" sector of Jerusalem, it was announced here today.—France-Press.

DAVID GORDON WRITES IN OUR JAPANESE NEWSLETTER:

Curious Aspect Of Japanese Life—Youthful Suicides

Tokyo (By Airmail)

A DISTURBING and a curious aspect of life in Japan emerged after the headlining of the death pact between former Manchu Princess, Aishin - kakura Eisei and her student lover, Takenichi Okubo.

In the welter of opinions and comments which flooded the press, it was brought to light that close to 10,000 Japanese youngsters between the ages of 15 and 24 have committed suicide so far this year—a grim total which more than doubles the deaths in this same age bracket from TB during the period.

Unrequited love, failure in examinations, poor job prospects, general family poverty, along with loss of face from simple scoldings to "abandonment" for some minor fault, were the main causes for this rash of hasty deaths.

Everything from co-education, which has been introduced since War's end, to feudalistic thinking of parents has been blamed for the attitude of the youth of the country which so widely believes that life is not worth living. In this particularly sad case, it was generally felt that the unhappy pair was unable to find wiser counsel from parents, teachers or other friends, rather pointing to the rigidity of thought and overall stiffness of certain classes of Japanese society.

CONFIRMATION

Although no exact confirmation of this is possible at the moment, quite strong rumour has it that the pretty Princess was one of the girls among the select few who were being considered as possible choices

for a bride for Crown Prince Akihito.

Prime Minister Kishi has not stated he will not consider a dissolution of the Diet until after the passing of the Budget, despite belief by certain sections of his party that a quick appeal to the country at this time would strengthen his position.

The Socialist Party, in drafting its policies for the coming year, again brought up its firm intention of repudiating the peace treaty between Japan and Taiwan and of restoring full relations with Peking, a platform which could in the present mood of the country earn it considerably wider support. The Socialists will gain another advantage in the next elections through the refusal by the Liberal-Democratic Party to recognise as candidates any of the numerous members of that party who were connected in any manner with the dreary procession of "scandals" paraded in the press during the past year.

CORRUPTION

There was hardly a Ministry or a department which did not come under fire, or actual police investigation, for bribery and various other forms of corruption, while several Diet members are currently under arrest or out on bail for criminal involvement—largely in connection with the Anti-Prostitution Bill which comes into full effect next April.

Before departing from the political scene, it is worth noting that income received by the various parties, which is recorded in accordance with the Political Funds Control Law, showed the big Socialist Party gained a bare ¥40 million (against the Japan Communist Party's ¥37½

million. The Liberal Democrats were in a comfortable position with ¥22½ million in approved contributions to their cause.

Finally driven to take some measures to stem the rising tide of protests over Japanese design "piracy," the Ministry of International Trade and Industry cautioned all Japanese exporters and industrialists against copying foreign designs or trade marks—even unintentionally.

Mill particularly stressed the dangers inherent in manufacturing items "on request" for certain overseas markets, and warned that before such were undertaken, the fullest investigation should be made to ensure no violations of other makers' rights were involved. They were further cautioned to obtain the assurances of their customers that these would "take all responsibility in the event of any trouble."

Be this as it may, one is apt to wonder just how much notice of Mill's request will be taken when a ten-minute stroll along the Ginza will show shop after shop with windows packed with glaring examples of piracy and blatant attempts to fool buyers. "Scotch tweeds" appear to have captured the imagination of the weavers here, for there isn't a tailor shop that doesn't have rolls of material bearing ungrammatical tags attesting that the stuff was woven within spitting distance of the Highlands.

EXCLUSIVE

The more "exclusive" suit lengths bear beautiful gold-thread lettering along the searidge, reading "Madeline Scotland." The "genuine clan tartan" could only have been won by tribes long since vanquished from North of the Cheviots, distant members of which presumably sought refuge in Nagoya or Nagasaki in days of yore. Mill will have to shout very loud to make its voice heard above the din of Japanese factories.

At the rate Japan is "selling" land on Mars there will be no problem populating that planet. If and when transportation there is assured, President Abdul Gamal Nasser of Egypt acquired a "ranch-sized" lot of 80 acres through the generosity of the Japan Astronautical Society which has taken it upon itself to disburse such property "free" to the various heads of state. Your correspondent, not being of this elevated class, paid ¥600 for one acre of a large parcel which was sold in aid of a Christmas charity.

Marshal Pibul Songgram is here "for at least the next twelve

months" according to his present plans. The former Thai Prime Minister has also been generous to the press, granting "exclusive" interviews liberally. He is in daily contact with Bangkok by phone, but is taking "no active interest in politics" except for a benevolent remark or two on the current elections in his country.

Another distinguished visitor expected to arrive here for a rest cure is President Soekarno of troubled Indonesia. Japan has frequently claimed itself to be the "Switzerland of Asia" and now appears to be making this come partly true.

British aviation interests were quick off the mark when Far East Air Lines merged with the upcoming Japan Helicopter and Aeroplane Transport Company to form the All Nippon Airways—or ANA as it will be better known. Both Vickers and De Havilland have sent experts to discuss the requirements of new aircraft to supplement the fleet now used for domestic service, as well as to provide planes suitable for use on projected routes to Korea, China and Russia.

AIRLINE

JHAT, or "Nipper" as it was nicknamed, has won itself a reputation for punctuality rivaling that of Japan's remarkable railroads—and mostly relied on DH Doves and Herons to gain it. Present expansion plans will most probably see more Herons shortly on the run with Viscounts to follow. The new company is already looking to the future of jet-propelled planes with the Comet a fair bet as a starter.

In Yanagawa City, Fukuoka, 20 married men formed the Japan Respect-For-Wives Association. This unusual reversal of time-honoured Japanese custom was completed when the members swore before their respective wives that "We hereby declare that we shall not stare at beautiful women in the street." This self-attributed oath was followed by a banquet for the wives in which the share for the husbands comprised a few pieces of pickled radish—and the privilege of washing up afterwards.

The "Westernisation" of Japan has apparently taken distorted shape since the seeds were planted in this region of the country. It remains to be seen what sort of a dent will be made in the outlook of errant husbands in the remaining 42 Prefectures by the noble sacrifice of this small heroic band from the South.

RADIO Hongkong

8.30, Lucky Dip; 8.45, Carol Concert from Overseas by Miss. Handford; 9.00, The New Symphony Orchestra; 9.15, Weather Report; 9.30, Time Signal; 9.45, News; 10.00, Concert; 10.15, Peter; 10.30, Concert; 10.45, News; 11.00, Farewell Address by His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, to Legislative Council, and speeches by the Colonial Secretary and the Senior Unofficial Member; 11.15, Concert; 11.30, News; 11.45, Weather Report; 12.00, News; 12.15, Concert; 12.30, News; 12.45, Weather Report; 1.00, News; 1.15, Concert; 1.30, News; 1.45, Weather Report; 2.00, News; 2.15, Concert; 2.30, News; 2.45, Weather Report; 3.00, News; 3.15, Concert; 3.30, News; 3.45, Weather Report; 4.00, News; 4.15, Concert; 4.30, News; 4.45, Weather Report; 5.00, News; 5.15, Concert; 5.30, News; 5.45, Weather Report; 6.00, News; 6.15, Concert; 6.30, News; 6.45, Weather Report; 7.00, News; 7.15, Concert; 7.30, News; 7.45, Weather Report; 8.00, News; 8.15, Concert; 8.30, News; 8.45, Weather Report; 9.00, News; 9.15, Concert; 9.30, News; 9.45, Weather Report; 10.00, News; 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SHIPPING

WORLD MERCHANT FLEET EXPANDS

London. The world's merchant fleet rose sharply by 5,046,000 gross tons to a new record level of 110.2 million tons during the year ended July, 1957. Apart from the war years, for which figures are not available, this is the largest annual increase in world tonnage since 1920.

It represents an addition of about 4 1/2 per cent, to the existing tonnage and it appears that a comparable rate of increase is continuing.

Once again, although this expansion was distributed widely among the main maritime countries, the Liberian flag of convenience fleet led the world with an increase of 1,892,000 gross tons, or 37.7 per cent.

The Liberian fleet is a wholly post-war development. Since 1950, it has grown from 245,457 tons, representing only 22 ships, to 743 vessels, aggregating 7,460,420 tons this year.

Norway comes next (up 453,000 tons to 8,468,000 tons), then Germany (up 399,000 tons to 3,000,000 tons); Italy with 355,000 tons more to 4,552,000 tons; Japan, with 339,000 tons more to 4,415,000 tons; the Netherlands, with an increase of 329,000 tons to 4,335,000 tons; and Britain, up 312,000 tons to 19,857,000 gross tons.

LARGEST The United Kingdom has still by far the largest active merchant fleet in the world. While the United States has a fleet of 25,911,000 tons, about 12 1/2 million tons of this total is in the "mothball" reserve.

Since 1950, the world fleet has risen by 4 1/2 per cent. Apart from the United States—whose increase of 14 1/2 million tons over the period includes the inactive "mothball" reserve, the main contributor was Liberia, with 7 1/2 million tons.

Norway and Panama follow with expansions of 3 1/2 million tons each, and the United Kingdom with a rise of 2 million tons.

Lloyd's Register of Shipping returns show that oil tankers accounted for 1,727,000 gross tons, or over 34 per cent of the overall rise in the world fleet during the year.

The tanker fleet at the end of July totalled 20,937,882 tons, representing 27.2 per cent of the world merchant fleet, compared with 26.8 per cent a year before, and only 19.9 per cent in 1953.

The more recent trend to still larger tankers is shown by a considerable increase over the year, to almost 4 million tons of vessels of over 20,000 gross tons and under five years of age.

Of the world tanker total of 20.9 million tons, nearly 11.3 million tons were built within the last five years. Only 2.9 million tons of tanker tonnage is more than 20 years old.

OUTLOOK Unfortunately this output has come on to the market at a time when the growth of world trade has come to a standstill. As a result of the general economic situation and special factors, such as the high level of European coal stocks, the large number of new ships now being delivered are beginning to find cargo during a world freight slump.

As the president of the British Chamber of Shipping, Lord Simon, has pointed out, "they will add to a supply of shipping already far in excess of present demand."

Further ahead the outlook may not be as gloomy. World trade will eventually resume its upward movement and a small change in the demand for shipping can exert a disproportionate influence on freight rates. But even in the long run, it is still not clear whether or not the demand for shipping has been overestimated.

A great deal may depend on the rate at which old tonnage is scrapped. Existing world fleets still include many war-time Liberty ships more expensive to run than modern vessels.

If the present slump in freight rates is prolonged, a large proportion of Liberty vessels may be scrapped. In that event there will be a reasonable prospect of eventually employing the whole of the newly built tonnage at remunerative rates.

OIL TANKER FLEETS ('000 gross tons. Figures in parenthesis show changes over the year.)

United Kingdom	0.500	(+237)
Total British		
Commonwealth	5.951	(+201)
Norway	4.747	(+187)
Liberia	4.143	(+189)
United States	4.143	(+83)
Panama	2.135	(+69)
Italy	1.342	(+40)
France	1.304	(+45)
Netherlands	1.117	(+34)
Sweden	0.93	(+01)
Japan	0.88	(+73)
Denmark	0.88	(+73)
Germany	0.82	(+49)
Argentina	0.61	(+1)
Spain	0.60	(+15)
Soviet Russia	0.19	(+1)
Greece	0.178	(+24)

SERIOUS TANKER SURPLUS

London. Although more business was transacted in the oil tanker charter market last week, the current surplus of tankers is so great that rates showed little change. Vessels seeking employment are still competing with relet ships being offered by major charterers.

Rates will continue at virtualy the same level, until there is a great increase in major company inquiry.

The brightest spot in the market last week was a revival in business in the American coast-wise market. If this demand is maintained, it could absorb some of the surplus tonnage available and so help to bring about a better balance between supply and demand.

INDICATIVE It is indicative that charterers still find that, despite last week's increased business, they usually receive several offers at low rates from tanker owners for each inquiry.

So long as owners are willing to continue on these lines, they have no reasonable hope of raising freight rates.

In the west last week, single voyake rates from the Caribbean to U.K. or Continent stood about Scale minus 50 per cent while Caribbean to U.S.N.H. rates showed a slight improvement of about 2 1/2 points to U.S.M.C. minus 60 per cent.

Rates from the Persian Gulf to the U.K. or Continent were unchanged over the week at around Scale minus 52 1/2 per cent.

In the period market, several charterers are still seeking tonnage in the 15-19,000 tons range for short period employment and for six months' time-charter. Charterers' idea are about \$2.50 per ton per month.

DEPRESSION IN FREIGHTS There is little prospect of a change in the Atlantic freight trade which could take freight rates out of their present rut, apart from a prolonged period of bad weather.

Coal stocks in Europe and Britain are high, the harvest has been good, the demand for industrial materials has been damped down by high interest rates, which make it expensive to hold stocks. All these factors together have reduced demand for freight space, and for the goods carried in ships.

All the same, there is not a great surplus of active unemployed tonnage in the world, and a small increase in demand can bring about a substantial rise in rates.

DEPRESSION On the other hand, if the current depression is prolonged, a lot of uneconomic tonnage, especially Liberty ships, will be scrapped. The U.S. Maritime Administration has already decided to scrap 100 Liberty ships in its reserve fleet next year.

Rates for coal and grain are low. Coal is around 30 shillings a ton, Hampton Roads to Rotterdam-Hamburg range, and 38/- a ton for Poland. Heavy grain is 0.25 dollars, U.S. Gulf to the Continent of Europe, and 37/6, British Columbia to Britain.

The Eastern trades are a little more hopeful. India and Pakistan are expected to increase grain imports, since the crop in those two countries will not be adequate for domestic needs. Similarly, Australia has had a crop failure, and may have to import wheat from Canada. But all these countries will try to limit their imports as far as possible, for balance of payments reasons.

THE NEW YORK STOCK MART

New York, Dec. 17. Bear market looks for steels and some of the autos, wide declines in metals and new selling in railroads marked a more wide and lower session on the stock market today.

NEW YORK RUBBER MARKET

New York, Dec. 17. Rex rubber futures today closed 15 to 30 points higher with sales of 102 contracts.

Standard contract closed 15 to 30 points higher with no sales reported.

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HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

Our Own Correspondent

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to approximately \$150,000. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions were:

Shares	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
Union	70 1/2	20 @ 71 1/2	
Shipping	0.40	0.50	1,000 @ 0.45
Wheatecks	120 @ 0.45		
Electric	100 @ 0.45		

DOCKS, ETC.	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
K. Wharf	114		
President (O)	11.40	11.00	

LAND, ETC.	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
H. Hotel	14.50	14.00	
H. Land	32 1/2	30 1/2 @ 32 1/2	

RUBBER	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
Amalg.	1.30	1.30	10,000 @ 1.32 1/2
Truist	1.25	1.30	200 @ 1.23

UTILITIES	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
Public Trust	22.50	22.00	
Electric	10.00	10.00	
Light (O)	20.10	20.00	100 @ 20 1/2
Telephone	24.90	25.10	

INDUSTRIALS	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
Cement	30.00		
Stores, ETC.	15.00	15.10	1,500 @ 15
Woolen	11.00		

INVESTMENTS	Buyers	Sellers	Sales
H.K. & F.E.	9.00		

LONDON STOCK MARKET

London, Dec. 17. Trading started briskly today in the new British Petroleum bond issue with the offering closing \$6 above the issue price in an otherwise lower market.

Other oil issues caused led by Royal Dutch which lost five shillings.

At the close of trading Shell Transport and Trading Co. announced it will disclose the terms of its new issue of common shares about the middle of January.

Oil-edged securities were listless and drifted lower. Industrial favourites closed fractionally lower.

Foreign bonds were mostly unchanged and quiet. United Press.

SINGAPORE STOCKS

Singapore, Dec. 18. Brokers today quoted the following stock prices:

Stock	Opening
Beta Lintang Rubber Co. Ltd.	\$1.85
British Burmah Petroleum Ltd.	45s
Consolidated Tin Smelters Ltd.	29s 0d
Ord.	43s 0d
Fraser & Neave Ltd. Ord.	\$4.00
Fraser & Neave 7 1/2% cum. pref.	\$2.27 1/2
Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corp.	\$4.00
Kumpong Ltd.	\$1.00
Kuala Lumpur Tin	32s 0d
Lat Pau Rubber Estates Ltd.	\$1.00
Malayan Breweries Ltd.	\$3.42 1/2
New Serendah Rubber Co.	\$3.55
Petaling Tin Ltd.	\$2.47 1/2
Raffles Hotel	\$2.60 1/2
Singapore Cold Storage	\$2.94
Strait Trading	\$1.77 1/2
Strait Steamship	\$1.30
United Engineers Ord.	\$1.30
Wean Bros.	\$1.30
Special	\$1.30

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The N.Y. Cotton Market

New York, Dec. 17. Cotton futures today finished with minor net changes after see-sawing erratically over a range of \$1.30 a bale.

Sagging suddenly after steady opening, the market then staged an irregular comeback as selling subsided and trade buying orders predominated.

The post-opening drop reflected an overnight accumulation of hedge selling, plus consumption estimate in November and buyer enthusiasm pending news on outcome of bids opened yesterday for purchases out of the government's raw cotton surplus.

At the close the list ruled off 9 to up 2 points. Opening prices were off 1 to 5 points. New Orleans closed 1 to 5 points down.

RESULTS Results of the sale are expected to be made known later in the week. Meantime hedge selling developed antipathetic awards.

The New York Cotton Exchange estimated domestic consumption of all raw cotton in the five-week period ended November 30 at 650,000 bales. This compared with 620,000 bales used in the preceding five-week period and 870,000 bales used in the corresponding five-week period last season.

Consumption for the first 17 weeks of the season was estimated at 2,795,000 bales against 3,105,000 bales used in approximately the same time last season.

The Government weekly crop summary was favourable. Fair and sunny conditions permitted completion of harvesting operations in the north central and northwestern portions of the main belt. This cotton, however, showed adverse effect of previous wet weather. Picking neared completion in most of California.

Month Volume Open interest

Month	Volume	Open interest
Dec.	32,200	27,800
Jan.	18,400	23,400
Feb.	18,400	23,400
Mar.	18,400	23,400
Apr.	18,400	23,400
May	18,400	23,400

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CHINA MAIL

Page 10

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1957.

SHEAFFER'S
Skrip

PI CHECK ON ECONOMIC CRISIS

RUSSIA AFTER SPEED RECORD

London, Dec. 17. Russia expects to beat the speed of more than 1,242 mph of one of its jet fighters in the near future, the Red Air Force's fastest pilot said today.

Moscow radio, monitored here, broadcast an interview with Lieut-Colonel Nikolai Korovushkin, the pilot, who claimed to have flown a jet plane at more than 2,000 kilometres (1,242 mph) per hour.

"We shall not doubt in the near future achieve even greater height and speed," Korovushkin said.

Neither I nor my comrades consider the recent flight a record. I did not aim at achieving maximum speed. When the speedometer showed over 2,000 kph it seemed the machine could have gone faster," he said.

Korovushkin said he was flying a new-type fighter, but no details were given.—United Press.

Rubber For Russia

Singapore, Dec. 17. A 7,272-ton Russian freighter, the Sukhona, arrived in Singapore today to load 1,370,000 Malayan dollars worth of Malayan rubber for Russia.

This is believed to be the biggest single rubber shipment of the year from Singapore.—United Press.

Legislators Work On Measures To Curb Exchange Flow

Manila, Dec. 18.

The Philippines moved today to soften the impact on the people of this young nation their worst economic crisis in 11 years.

PHOTO OF ATLAS

Washington, Dec. 17. The Defence Department released for the first time today an official photograph of an Atlas ICBM launching.

The launching pictured was the unsuccessful June 11 test. The rocket is shown shortly after it left the ground. Flame and smoke trailed the huge missile. Shortly afterward, it was destroyed in the air by the range safety officer.

The only photos of Atlas ICBMs published previously were those made by news photographers who used telescopic lenses from the bench miles away from the Cape Canaveral test centre.—United Press.

Israel Convoy Postponed

Jerusalem, Israel, Dec. 17. Israel will postpone its supply convoy to Mount Scopus from Wednesday to Thursday this week to accommodate a Jordanian request.

The Jordanians told Israel informally today that King Hussein would be visiting the Jordanian Old City of Jerusalem on Wednesday and every available policeman would be needed to ensure security measures.—United Press.

There were no indications that the Government's austerity programme, which already had touched off skyrocketing of prices, would end during the next six months.

The unemployment figure was approximately two million out of a total working force of eight million—considered the highest ratio in Asia.

Legislators worked out measures to check the dangerous depletion of the country's foreign exchange reserves, now down to the last US\$80,000,000.

Committee

The Senate Committee on banks, corporations and franchises announced that a new price control law should be enacted to implement the austerity measures instituted by the Central Bank in order to save the country's reserve situation.

The Committee, which is currently looking into the circumstances which led to the economic crisis, reported it also would propose statutory safeguards against possible mismanagement of the country's foreign exchange reserve.

Measures

The Chairman, Pedro Sabido, also announced measures would be introduced in the fourth Congress next month aimed at repeal or amendment of the so-called no dollar import law, including its barrier trade phase.

The Philippines National Bank said it will gear its general policies to President Garcia's plans for increasing food production.—United Press.

MAIL Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for registered correspondence posted at G.P.O., Hongkong. The latest posting times are those which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by the latest posting times for registered articles are generally shown below. Particulars regarding parcels may be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18
By Air
Hawaii, U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
Formosa, Korea, 5 p.m.
Laoa, 5 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19
By Surface
Peking, Shanghai, Hankow, Kuning, Hsinow, 7 a.m.
Thailand, 8 a.m.
Japan, 9 a.m.

Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Ceylon, India, Pakistan, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, Noon.

Philippines, Noon.
Thailand, Burma, India, 6 p.m.

S.A., 6 p.m.
Canton, 6 p.m.
By Surface

China, People's Republic, 7 a.m.
Macao, 1 p.m.
Japan, U.S.A., C. & S. America, Noon.

Pakistan, (P. India, parcels via Karachi) 1 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20
By Air
Peking, Shanghai, Hankow, Kuning, Hsinow, 7 a.m.

Formosa, Japan, Okinawa, Korea, 11 a.m.
Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A., 1 p.m.

India, China, 1 p.m.
Philippines, Australia, New Zealand, 2 p.m.

Thailand, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 6 p.m.

U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
Hawaii, 6 p.m.

By Surface
China, People's Republic, 7 a.m.
Macao, 1 p.m.
Philippines, 2 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

Iraq Denies Peace Move

Baghdad, Dec. 17.

Premier Abdul Wahab Mirjan flatly denied today that Iraq intends to make peace with Israel.

In a statement in Parliament, Mirjan, who was named Premier on Sunday, appealed to the Arab nations to "close ranks and defeat Israel's expansionist dreams at the expense of the Arab peoples."

Premier Mirjan said his Government would "fully support" the Arab nations and the charter of the Arab League.

He also pledged support for the United Nations charter and the Baghdad Pact of which Iraq is the only Arab member.—United Press.

Crash Bodies Recovered

Manila, Dec. 18.

The bodies of two Air Force pilots who, with seven others perished during the Philippine Air Force plane crash in Nueva Ecija Province last December 10, were finally recovered yesterday from the plane's cockpit which had been buried by a landslide.—France-Press.

SUSPECTS DETAINED

The Police have arrested three men on suspicion of theft. In the first case, some money was stolen from a pedagogue in Shanghai Street, near Soy Street, shortly after 3 p.m. yesterday. The second case involved the theft of a fountain pen from a Chinese in Castle Peak Road at about 11 a.m., while money was stolen from a Chinese woman pedestrian in Kowloon, about the same time.

CLAIM FOR BALANCE OF PRICE

CLAIM FOR BALANCE OF PRICE

A claim for \$369,338.54 being balance of the price of building materials sold and delivered and for \$55,774.59 being interest on overdue accounts was brought by the Trading Corporation, Ltd., of Alexandra House, before the Senior Puisne Judge, Mr Justice T. J. Gould, in the Supreme Court this morning.

The defendants are the Chiu Lun Construction, of 23 Ice House Street, and T. S. Tsai, a partner.

Judgment was given for the amount of \$369,338.54 which was admitted by the defendants, who, however, deny the claim for the interest.

T. S. Tsai counter-claims \$539,015.04 alleging breach of two contracts with regard to the building of the new Po Hing Theatre and the Castle Peak Hospital.

Plaintiffs are represented by Mr Richard Winter, instructed by Mr G. E. S. Stevenson, of Messrs Stewart and Company.

NOT REPRESENTED

Defendants are not represented by Counsel.

Mr Winter told the Court that the main part of the plaintiffs' claim was for \$369,338.54 for goods sold and supplied to the defendants. He said that it would be seen from the defence that the amount was admitted. He asked for judgment.

Mr R. F. K. Jones, accountant, employed by Messrs Lowe, Bingham and Matthews said that he was the secretary of the plaintiff company, acting on behalf of its employers.

Witness produced two debit notes for interest due dated May 31, 1956, and June 30, 1956, and a document requesting confirmation of balance for audit purposes. The document was sent to defendants on July 24, 1956 and was endorsed by them.

DEBIT NOTE

Mr G. E. S. Stevenson, director of plaintiff company, produced a debit note for interest due dated August 31, 1956, for \$5,380.82. He said he sent the original to the defendants under a covering letter.

So far no interest claimed has been paid, he said. Tsai denied owing any interest. He said no mention of any interest was agreed upon at the time of the delivery of the goods.

Hearing is continuing.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE PRESENTATION



Mrs Lee Man-ki presenting a silver tray to His Excellency the Governor, Sir Alexander Grantham, on behalf of the three Women's Welfare Clubs at Government House this morning.—China Mail.

Women's Welfare Clubs Present Tray To Governor

By A CHINA MAIL REPORTER

A fine circular silver tray was presented to His Excellency the Governor and Lady Grantham at a private audience by ladies of three Women's Welfare Clubs at Government House this morning.

As it was placed on an ebony stand, the Governor bent before it and because of its brilliance, said he could use it as a mirror. Lady Grantham exclaimed that the tray was really lovely and warmly thanked the donors, who represented the clubs in Hongkong East, Hongkong West and Kowloon.

Paid Tribute

Mrs M. K. Lee, Chairman of Hongkong East paid tribute in Cantonese to the support and help given by the Governor and Lady Grantham to the welfare work, and Mrs L. K. Fung of the same club spoke in English. She asked for the gift to be accepted as a token of love from the three clubs in gratitude for the kind patronage shown and expressed the wish that Sir Alexander and Lady Grantham would enjoy happiness in their retirement and longevity.

Hongkong East was represented by Mrs S. K. Chan and Mrs K. T. Yue and Kowloon by Mrs Robert Li and Mrs K. C. Fung. The ladies afterwards had refreshments in the drawing-room.

Two Injured In Traffic Accidents

A 10-year-old boy, Chu Kwong-yun, living at No. 443 Des Voeux Road West, first floor, was knocked down by a cyclist in Des Voeux Road West, near Western Street, at about 8 a.m. yesterday.

The lad was admitted to the Queen Mary Hospital in a serious condition.

A private car knocked down and seriously injured a Chinese woman, Chan So-ngor, aged 29, in Un Chau Street, near Wing Lung Street, shortly midday yesterday.

The injured woman, who lives at No. 7, Chan Pan Village, Sheung Shui, New Territories, was admitted to the Kowloon Hospital.

GARRISON PLAYERS

A very successful preview of the Garrison Players' latest production, "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens, was held last night at the Missions to Seamen theatre.

This preview was for the members of Her Majesty's Forces, who received the play with loud applause.

Since Friday night's special performance for children has long been sold out, a certain number of children were admitted to last night's show, and it is announced that children's seats at \$2 each will also be on sale at the door for tonight's and tomorrow's performances. Curtain up is at 9 o'clock to-night, tomorrow and Saturday, and at 6.30 p.m. on Friday.

BURGLARY

Thieves broke into the third floor of No. 136, Jervois Street and stole two wrist watches valued at \$800 between 3 o'clock and 7 o'clock this morning. The door of the flat had been forced open.

Sailor Robbed

A British sailor of HMS Newcastle reported to the Police this morning that three Chinese assaulted and robbed him of a sum of money in Gloucester Road, near Fenwick Street, at about 5.30 a.m. today.

From the Files

25 years AGO

HOODED robbers made a raid on the premises of a limo klan on Tung I Island yesterday in the early morning and after binding a woman and her daughter, got away with \$20 in money as well as a quantity of jewellery. The men entered the premises by moving the tiles from the roof.

"In Malaya three years should be the maximum term of service for white people if it is desired to conserve their efficiency, mental equilibrium and alertness," said Mr Kenneth Black, Professor of Surgery of the King Edward VII College of Medicine, in the course of an article on "Health and Climate with special reference to Malaya" in the current issue of the Malayan Medical Journal.

THE Rev. Thomas Cooker Brown has been nominated in London to the post of Foreign Secretary of the London Missionary Society for China and Africa. Mr Brown, who has been a missionary in China for the past 20 years, succeeds Mr F. H. Hawkins. The Right Rev. Ronald Owen Hall, Bishop of Victoria, is due to arrive in Hongkong by the East Mail on Friday. He replaces the Right Rev. C. R. Duddy.

LONDON: A remarkable flight over the Himalayas has been performed by the aircraft of Nos 11 and 39 squadrons. Hart machines with Kestrel engines. In a flight of hundreds of miles over the mountains, the planes rose to a height of five miles when passing over Mount Rakaposhi, 25,550 feet.

DELEM: Another attempt to find Colonel P. H. Faucci, the lost British explorer, is to be made by a scientific expedition party, which arrived here today on the steamer "The First Nowell." A Nativity play was presented.

SOME of the finest amateur singing ever seen in the Colony was witnessed by the large congregation which packed St John's Cathedral yesterday afternoon when "The First Nowell," a Nativity play was presented.

PARIS: The Nizam of Hyderabad, when motoring from here to the Riviera, lost a handbag containing over \$50,000,000 francs worth of jewels. A peasant found the treasure on the road and was just proceeding to the nearest police station to hand it to the authorities when he met the car of the Nizam, who in the meantime has noticed his loss. The peasant got a reward of a diamond said to be worth half a million francs.

TOKYO: A new party known as the National League, with Fascist tendencies and 33 members in the Diet, headed by the former Home Minister, Mr. Adachi, will be formally inaugurated tomorrow.

HARBIN: The inhuman cruelty of a gang of kidnapers, who cut off the ears of a young lad and sent them to his father is recorded in the Harbin newspapers. The outrage was committed after the abduction of the boy had made fruitless attempts to secure a sum of ten thousand dollars for his release.

FORMOSA: Having seen an immense quantity of alluvial gold washed ashore by recent high tides, villagers of Karenko started gold hunting along the sea-shore, secretly taking advantage of the moonlight. The matter was brought to the notice of the local police and the result was the confiscation of the gold. There is reported to be some Yen 4,000,000,000 worth of gold around this area.

Following up a letter which they sent a fortnight ago warning the management of the Young High School, Shanghai, against dealing in Japanese goods, members of the Red Blood Corps hurled a bomb into the shop at 6.40 p.m. on Wednesday.

your ideal Gift —
(Have you seen our new Italian Sweaters?)
comes from

Paquerette's
16a Des Voeux Rd. Tel. 21-157

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"Remember when I used to come over to date your daughter, Mr. Barnes? I guess the joke's on me!"

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